

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Please cancel Claims 1-4 and add new Claims 5-11, below.

Claims 1-4 (**Canceled**).

5. (**New**) A joint socket for a hip endoprosthesis, comprising:

a socket shell configured to be implanted in the pelvic bone of a patient, the socket shell having an inner surface that defines an accommodating space extending about an axis of rotation; and

a socket insert configured to provide a bearing for a joint head of a prosthesis stem, a spherical outer surface of said socket insert configured to be disposed in the accommodating space of the socket shell and contact the inner surface along a line of contact that is concentric with the axis of rotation of the accommodating space, the socket insert coupleable in a self-locking manner within said accommodating space,

wherein the inner surface of the socket shell tapers toward a pole of the shell in the region of said line of contact in such a manner that a radius of curvature in the said region is greater than the spherical radius of the outer surface of said socket insert.

6. (**New**) The joint socket of Claim 5, wherein the inner surface has a conical shape and defines an infinite radius of curvature in the region of said line of contact.

7. (**New**) The joint socket of Claim 6, wherein a cone angle of said conically narrowing inner surface is a self-locking angle corresponding to a material pairing of said socket shell and said socket insert.

8. (**New**) The joint socket of Claim 7, wherein the cone angle of said conical inner surface is between about 4° and 10°.

9. (**New**) The joint socket of Claim 7, wherein the cone angle of said conical inner surface is about 4.5.

10. (**New**) The joint socket of Claim 7, wherein the cone angle of said conical inner surface is about 9.5°.

11. (**New**) A method for implanting a joint socket for a hip endoprosthesis, comprising:

inserting a socket shell in a pelvic bone, the socket shell having a conical inner surface that defines an accommodating space extending about an axis of rotation;

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loosely inserting a socket insert into the accommodating space so that an outer surface of the socket insert comes into contact with the conical inner surface;
rotating the socket insert within the accommodating space to a desired position;
tilting the socket insert within the accommodating space to a desired position; and
pressing the socket insert into the accommodating space to engage the socket insert with the socket shell in a self-locking manner.